

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

The amendment to the claims is to correct improper multiple dependencies and to place the application into better form for examination. Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  #42.874
for Gerald M. Murphy, Jr., #28,977

GMM/cqc
0365-0529P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

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The claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The method of [any one of claims 1 to 3]claim 1, characterized in that the modification comprises genetic modification of the microorganism.

24. (Amended) The host strain of [any one of claims 20 to 23]claim 20, characterized in that the host strain is a *Trichoderma* strain.

25. (Amended) The host strain of [any one of claims 20 to 24]claim 20, characterized in that the hydrofobins are HFB I or HFB II of *Trichoderma*.

26. (Amended) The host strain of [any one of claims 20 to 22]claim 20, characterized in that the microorganism strain is a bacterial strain.

28. (Amended) The host strain of [any one of claims 20 to 27]claim 20, characterized in that the product of interest is a protein or a metabolite or biomass.

29. (Amended) The host strain of [any one of claims 20 to 27]claim 20, characterized in that the product of interest is a recombinant product.

30. (Amended) The host strain of [any one of claims 20 to 29]claim 20, characterized in that the host strain is genetically modified to be capable of producing a fusion molecule comprising a molecule of interest fused to a hydrophobin.

31. (Amended) A process for producing an enhanced amount of a product of interest, characterized in that the process comprises the steps of

- cultivating a production host strain of [any one of claims 20 to 30]~~claim 20~~; and
- recovering the product from the cultivation.

(Rev. 11/13/01)